



## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



FIELD / SUMMER 2009

**LIBERAL ARTS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**  
**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**  
***FIELD / SUMMER 2009***

**- - FIELD #1 - -**  
**5/11 – 6/19/09**

**LAIS 225A: ART HISTORY**

Instructor: Eric Sands

Monday and Wednesday 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

(Field #1)

This is a 3-hour lecture course that includes slide presentations and videos. It covers the art of the Western World from cave paintings to the present. Evaluation is based on written tests scores and on a single research paper, the topic selected by the student. 3 credit hours.

**LAIS 301: CREATIVE WRITING: POETRY**

Instructor: Toni Lefton

Tuesday and Thursday 5:00 – 8:15 p.m.

(Field #1)

This course focuses on reading and writing contemporary poetry. Through our readings, discussions, in-class writing and weekly poetry exercises, students will learn many different poetic forms to compliment prosody, craft, and technique. Students will share their poetry with the class and receive feedback on their poems through workshops. The professor will offer weekly exercises that reflect specific poetic tools, encourage the writing of literary poetry, and stimulate the development of the student's poetic style. Students will be asked to review a published poetry collection, write poems weekly, and compose a final poetry portfolio. Prerequisite: LAIS 100. Prerequisite or Co-requisite: SYGN200. 3 semester hours.

General Information  
Connie Warren  
301 Stratton Hall  
1005 14th Street  
Golden, CO 80401  
Phone: 303-273-3590  
Fax: 303-273-3591  
cwarren@mines.edu



**LAIS 398A: AMERICA & THE ARAB WORLD**

Instructor: Hussein Amery

Tuesday and Thursday 5:00 – 8:15 p.m.

*(Field #1)*

After the attacks of 9-11, Americans from all walks of life developed a much greater interest in the Arab and Islamic Worlds. This course critically evaluates the relationship between the United States and various Arab countries from historical, economic, and geopolitical perspectives. In light of this, some the key issues are: (inter)dependence and globalization, oil, terrorism, political Islam, Arab-Israeli conflict, democracy promotion, and the war in Iraq. Prerequisite: LAIS 100. Prerequisite or Co-requisite: SYGN200. 3 semester hours.

**LAIS 398B: SUSTAINABLE DEV ACTION RES**

Instructor: Carrie Sonneborn

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*(Field #1)*

The work of engineers often has a direct and profound impact on both the physical environment and human society. As the global environment continues to show signs of stress as a result of human population pressure and resource use, it is important for engineers to have a solid foundation in the principles and practical application of sustainable development (SD). This course presents SD principles as they relate to engineering practice and invites students to explore their own world view. The course will utilize personal reflection and action research principles. Students will carry out a sustainability analysis of a real problem in the local community or on campus. Prerequisite: LAIS 100. Prerequisite or Co-requisite: SYGN200. 3 semester hours.

**LAIS 407: SCIENCE IN LITERATURE**

Instructor: Toni Lefton

Monday and Wednesday 5:00 – 8:15 p.m.

*(Field #1)*

Science fiction often serves as a cautionary tale that deals with the darker side of humanity's desires in order to find a better understanding of who we are and what we hope to become. We will read classic science fiction, speculative fiction, and utopia/dystopia literature from the late 1800's to the present. This class examines scientific and social progress as it is imagined by some of the greatest authors of the genre. We will examine the current events that may have influenced the writing and position our lens to the scientific and technological breakthroughs, as well as the social, cultural, and political state of the world. Students will turn in close reading responses for the short stories; deliver an innovative researched presentation for a particular decade in science and science fiction, as well as complete a final sci-fi fanzine or an original sci-fi story. Prerequisite: LAIS100. Prerequisite or Co-requisite: SYGN200. 3 semester hours.

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Summer and Field 2009

**- - SUMMER - -**

**6/15 – 8/7/09**

No classes offered for Summer Session 09 by LAIS.

**- - FIELD #2 - -**

**7/6 - 8/14/09**

**LAIS 398A: Imprisoning the Pens**

Instructor: Shira Richmond

Monday and Wednesday 5:00 – 8:15 p.m.

*(Field #2)*

Historically, poetry has both been inspired by suffering and has helped people handle suffering. As Percy Bysshe Shelley said, “Most wretched men / Are cradled into poetry by wrong; / They learn in suffering what they teach in song.” Many poets have landed themselves in jail by opposing oppression through verse, such as Turkish poet, Nazim Hikmet, Russian poet, Osip Mandelstam, and Palestinian poet, Mahmoud Darwish. Others have discovered poetry while in jail, such as American poets, Etheridge Knight and Jimmy Santiago Baca. Additionally, some imprisoned in Guantanamo have turned to poetry as a means of expressing the injustice and inhumanity of their confinement. This course will examine the lives and works of poets as a means of exploring international political movements. Each student will have the opportunity to research and present the work of and political context surrounding a poet of his or her choice. Prerequisite: LAIS100. Prerequisite or Co-requisite: SYGN200. 3 semester hours.

**LAIS 398B: Communication Across American Culture**

Instructor: Mikkilynn Olmsted

Tuesday and Thursday 5:00 – 8:15 p.m.

*(Field #2)*

As a professional scientist and engineer, your ability to communicate successfully with diverse groups of people will be essential. Each of us brings our own cultural expectations, and yet, most conflict occurs when we aren't aware of others' cultural understandings.

This course will examine American cultures. We'll discuss how gender, ethnicity, regionalism, work culture and religion frame who we are, how we communicate and what we consider most important. We'll look at folk tales, film, art, music, language and artifacts as cultural identify markers that continually change. This is a writing-intensive course with some multimedia projects. Prerequisite: LAIS100. Prerequisite or Co-requisite: SYGN200. 3 semester hours.

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